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Do-It-Yourself Licensing

Self-Service
Terminal
Installed In
Yankton Hy-Vee

BY DEREK BARTOS
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Renewing your vehicle registration in the Yankton area just got a little easier.

The state Department of Revenue, Division of Motor Vehicles, last week installed a self-service terminal (SST) for the process at the Hy-Vee Food Store at 2100 Broadway Ave. The station offers motorists the opportunity to update their vehicle registration 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

"We are pleased to be able to place an SST in the newly remodeled Yankton Hy-Vee Food Store," said Deb Hillmer, director of the Division of Motor Vehicles, in a news release. "South Dakota now has 10 self-service terminals operating throughout the state."

Sites for the self-service machines were selected last November, and Yankton is the final city to see its SST installed.

Yankton County Treasurer Pam Marchand said the reason Yankton's installation took



KELLY HERTZ/P&D
This new self-service terminal (SST) at Hy-Vee allows vehicle owners to renew their registrations 24 hours a day. The Yankton location is the last of 10 SST installations in the state.

TERMINAL | PAGE 3

Legislator Calls For EB-5 Audit

Requests Identities Of all Investors In
Failed Aberdeen Northern Beef Plant

BY DIRK LAMMERS
Associated Press

SIoux FALLS — A Democratic state legislator is calling for an independent fiscal audit of South Dakota's participation in a federal investment-for-green-cards immigration program.

The South Dakota Governor's Office of Economic Development for years contracted with the privately held SDRC Inc. to administer the federal EB-5 program, in which foreign investors can secure permanent residency for as little as \$500,000. The program helped fund the failed Northern Beef Packers in Aberdeen and other large projects in the state.

The economic development office canceled its contract with SDRC in September "for cause."

Rep. Kathy Tyler, of Big Stone City, said she tried to put the issue on this week's legislative Executive Board meeting agenda, but her request was voted down. Tyler said she'd like to see a

also

■ Last EB-5
Loan For Northern
Beef Plant
Blocked .
PAGE 9

forensic audit done by an independent accounting firm that provides details on all off-shore wire transfers, identifies the secret investors who provided a

bridge loan to Northern Beef and accounts for all payments made by SDRC to attorneys.

"There are foreign investments and there are foreign loans, and there's money going back and forth to the Cayman Islands," Tyler said Wednesday. "There are a lot of things that aren't being answered."

Executive Board chairman Sen. Ryan Maher, R-Isabel, said the board already had a full agenda for its Monday and Tuesday sessions.

AUDIT | PAGE 2

Special Committee To Ensure Ethical Campaigns

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF
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Two area legal experts will help ensure that candidates for circuit court judge are running fair and ethical campaigns.

The statewide special committee on judicial elections includes Yankton attorney John Blackburn and University of South Dakota law professor Christine Hutton of Vermillion.

Chief Justice David Gilbertson of the state Supreme Court appointed the nine-member committee, which consists of retired justices and judges, lawyers and citizens.

"We're the only state with this (special) committee for judicial elections," Blackburn said. "Our chief justice has been told by chief justices in other states that they wish they had a committee like this."

The special committee was created in 2006, Hutton said. Both she

and Blackburn served on that judicial panel eight years ago, the last election for circuit court judges. The panel heard between a half-dozen and dozen cases at that time, Blackburn said.

In 2014, all 41 of South Dakota's circuit court judge positions will be subject to election by the voters.

The panel responds to candidates' requests for advisory opinions. The committee also addresses complaints regarding judicial campaign conduct. The complaint could come from anyone, including the general public.

A complaint could deal with a candidate's representation of his or her background and qualifications, Blackburn said. "A candidate may allege experience that he or she doesn't have," he said.

Because of ethical concerns, judicial candidates tend to focus on their



COURTESY PHOTO
The Special Committee on Judicial Election Campaign Intervention will provide advisory opinions and receive any complaints about campaign ethics for circuit judge candidates. Pictured during last week's meeting in Pierre are, from left: Former Gov. Harvey Wollman, Bob Miller, Arlene Ham-Burr, Retired Chief Justice Robert A. Miller, Chief Justice David Gilbertson, Professor Christine Hutton and John Blackburn. Not pictured: Retired Judge Rodney Steele, Dr. Robert Burns and Robert Riter Jr.

COMMITTEE | PAGE 5

S.D. Chamber Expects To Oppose Minimum Wage Measure



KELLY HERTZ/P&D
David Owen, president of the South Dakota Chamber of Commerce & Industry, addressed members of the Yankton Area Chamber of Commerce at Minervas Grill and Bar about issues he expects the state Legislature to grapple with in 2014.

BY NATHAN JOHNSON
nathan.johnson@yankton.net

With a ballot measure to raise the minimum wage in South Dakota expected to be on the 2014 ballot, the president of the South Dakota Chamber of Commerce & Industry said Wednesday that he believes his organization will oppose it.

However, David Owen added that he has no indication from his board members that they want the Chamber leading the campaign against the measure.

"I expect us to be opposed to the minimum wage because it has an annual increase involved with it," he told members of the Yankton Area Chamber of Commerce Wednesday during a presentation in Yankton that largely focused on what to expect during the 2014 state Legislature. "The South Dakota Chamber has a wide variety of members, but we're predominantly a larger-employer organization with health care, financial

and manufacturing sector members. It's not an issue that directly affects a lot of the members. My board of directors understands that an increase in the minimum wage every once in a while is a responsible thing to do."

South Dakota Democrats and labor unions gathered more than 25,861 signatures to get an initiated measure on the November 2014 ballot. However, the Secretary of State has not yet verified that the needed 15,855 valid signatures were collected.

The measure would raise the minimum wage from the current federally-set \$7.25 to \$8.50 an hour; increase the \$2.13 hourly tip wage to half the minimum wage; and tie future increases to the cost of living.

The Chamber would prefer that minimum wage laws be set at the federal level, according to Owen.

OWEN | PAGE 11

State Looks At The Future Of Video Lottery

BY BOB MERCER
State Capitol Bureau

PIERRE — Administrators and the governing commission for the South Dakota Lottery gathered with dozens of business owners and operators the past two days to talk about the future of video lottery.

They are looking for ways to make the old-style poker and keno games and the new wave of line-up games more inviting, in the hope that people will gamble more.

The bottom line goal is to increase revenue. State government takes one half of the money lost by players in the privately owned machines.

A recent study for the commission found video lottery had lost market share to other types of legal gambling in South Dakota during the past decade or so.

Many of the possible changes that were discussed Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday morning at the strategy meeting would require approval from the Legislature.

Others, such as approving table games and bar-top terminals, can be done through rule changes by the commission.

Commission member Chuck Turbiville, who is mayor of Deadwood, suggested that the Legislature be asked to make video

VIDEO | PAGE 11

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In 1999 Bob Karolevitz compiled all his weekly Press & Dakotan columns into a book, "Yankton: The Way It Was". This book is now available once again with new additional columns.

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TOMORROW: 'Sleeping Beauty' Awakens At SAC Theatre This Weekend

YANKTON RECYCLING THIS WEEK:
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OF 15TH STREET